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Vol. I, Report No. 6.

PERFORMANCE OF RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT MIAMI UNIVERSITY FRESHMEN ON THE AMERICAN COUNCIL OF EDUCATION PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

Institutional Research Service
March, 1960

INTRODUCTION

This study reports the results of an analysis of the relationship between scores of resident and non-Chio resident freshmen on the American Council of Education Psychological Examination (ACE).*

Our expectation was that the non-resident freshmen would be superior to resident freshmen in ACE performance. Some corroboration of this expectation was supplied by a previous IRS Report (Vol. I., Report No. 3.) entitled "Performance of Selected Miami University Freshmen (1959 1960) on the Scholastic Aptitude Test" and by the Supplement to that Report.

The present Report represents an extension of Report No. 3. A study of wider and more refined scope was deemed desirable for several reasons. First, less than one-third of the freshmen class was involved in the earlier study. Secondly, the evaluative instrument used in the previous study was the SAT rather than the ACE. The Scholastic Aptitude Test is not required for our resident freshmen. Thirdly, the fact that Divisional enrollment of the students was not considered in the previous report may have served to obscure some of the results obtained from that study.

Students Used in the Analysis.

The 2192 freshman students involved in this analysis entered Miami University in September, 1959 and were divided by residence status and academic division as follows:

	Resident	Non-Resident
Arts and Science	695	243
Business	351	102
Education	633	77
Fine Arts	57	34

* The ACE yields three scores: 1) Quantitative - A measure of ability to handle non-verbal (primarily arithmetic and spatial concepts); 2) Linguistic - A measure of the ability to handle verbal concepts; and 3) Total score - Representing an overall appraisal of scholastic aptitude.

Procedure.

The median ACE scores of all freshmen within each Division were computed as a function of residence status. The distributions of scores earned by resident and non-resident subgroups within each Division were compared by means of chi-square tests of significance.

RESULTS

The median ACE percentile ranks earned by the resident and non-resident freshmen within each Division are shown graphically in Figure 1.

The statistical analyses of these data indicated that the performance of non-resident freshmen was significantly superior to that of resident freshmen in all instances with one exception (the Quantitative scores in the School of Fine Arts). It is quite apparent, in spite of this exception, that our freshmen from out-of-state are more capable students than are our resident freshmen.

CONCLUSION

These results suggest that the University's present policy of admitting students and the fact that a sizable number of highly capable non-residents seek admission to Miami act in combination to provide us with a heterogeneous group of freshmen: i. e., those from out-of-state are, as a group, superior in aptitude for college work to those from Ohio.

Figure 1

Median ACE Scores of Resident and Non-Resident Miami University Freshmen (1959)